



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of Suicide Prevention Week

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Department of Health underlines that suicide is the 11th leading cause of death in the United States and the 3rd leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 15-24; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Department of Health emphasizes that suicide is a public health problem as the 10th leading cause of death among Hawai'i residents of all ages and is the single leading cause of fatal injuries in our state from 2003-2013; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Department of Health highlights that suicide is preventable, yet the stigma associated with mental illness and suicidality works against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at risk for suicide from seeking life-saving help and further traumatizes survivors of suicide; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Department of Health recognizes that statewide suicide prevention efforts should continue to be developed and encouraged to the greatest extent; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Department of Health underscores that organizations such as the American Association of Suicidology and the Prevent Suicide Hawai'i Task Force are dedicated to reducing the frequency of suicide attempts and deaths, and the pain of survivors affected by suicides of loved ones; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Department of Health works in collaboration with the Prevent Suicide Hawai'i Task Force to coordinate activities each year that recognize suicide as a public health problem and suicide prevention as a statewide responsibility during "Suicide Prevention Week in Hawai'i" from September 8-14 to coincide with "2014 National Suicide Prevention Week";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim September 8-14, 2014, as

"SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK"

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing suicide as a public health challenge, developing broad-based support for suicide prevention, and reducing the stigma associated with being a consumer of mental, substance abuse and suicide prevention services.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this eighth day of September, 2014.


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i